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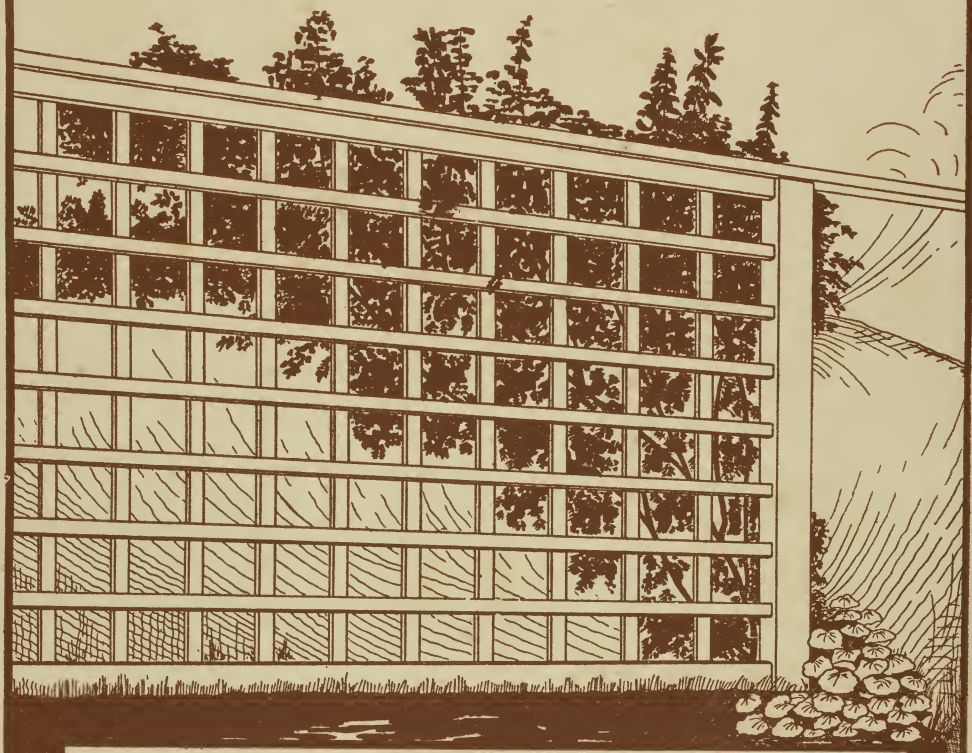
# California Garden



## IN THIS NUMBER

MORLEY GETS HOME
NEW PLANTS BY K. O. S.
NEW ROSES
OUR MOUNTAINS IN AUTUMN
BEGONIAS

NOV. 1924 TEN CENTS

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# The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association*
*One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

Vol. 16 POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, NOV., 1924 No. 5

## SYNOPSIS OF TRIP TO EUROPE (Part 3)

**By J. G. Morley, Balboa Park Supertintendent.**

Thursday, Aug. 7th, visited Central Park and Bronx Park and parkways. Mr. Merkel, the Superintendent of Bronx Park, drove me over the new parkway along the Bronx River. The Bronx River used to be lined along the bank with factories, tenement houses and many dilapidated structures. The sewage was also emptied into this small river, causing a very objectionable nuisance. All these disfigurements have been removed and a fine paved boulevard about completed,—the planting area seeded to lawns and thousands of trees and shrubs planted. At frequent intervals, swimming pools have been constructed so the current of the river flows through, the whole scheme being a very high class landscape development, providing an excellent example of what may be done to beautify a district that was formerly a blot on the landscape. The conservatory has one of the largest collections of plants in the country and they were in excellent condition. A visit to the Bronx Zoo proved very interesting, and all the animals were well cared for in the fine building and cages provided for them. It was certainly a pleasure to note the high class of improvements and maintenance of the Bronx Park system.

On Friday, Aug. 8th, arrived in Chicago at 10:00 a. m. via the Twentieth Century Limited,—just in time to witness one of the most severe thunderstorms I ever saw,—the rain came down in torrents nad flooded the city for several hours. In the afternoon, I visited Lincoln Park, with Mr. Crop, Vice-President of the Vaughan Seed Co. The park has very fine,—the many improvements and extensions along the lake front since my last visit were indeed a surprise. The improvements are all of the best,—the municipal pier, the boulevards and landscape treatment of the filled areas, are well worth the immense cost of the work. The older portions of the park were kept in a high degree of efficiency and with the excessive rains, the verdure of the trees and shrubs was beautiful, as also the flower beds throughout the park.

Saturday, Aug. 9th, I visited Jackson Park and was shown over the system by Mr. Richards, Superintendent of Manitenance,—the Superintendent, Mr. Foster, being confined to his bed with a severe illness. Mr. Richards drove me along the lake front and explained from maps the new improvements that are now under way and contemplated, at a cost of sixteen million dollars,—the funds for which are now available. The developed portions of the park were in fine condition and reflect credit on those in charge for the high class of maintenance. I did not have time to visit Garfield, Humbolt, and other portions of the park system, but from observations and information furnished, Chicago is well on the way to exceed any other city in the development of its parks and boulevards. In the afternoon, Mr. Vaughan, President of the J. D. Vaughan Seed Co., placed his auto and driver at my disposal and we drove over the boulevard system of the city and to several of the adjacent suburbs where the same high class of development is taking place as in Chicago. At 6:30 p. m. I left over the Northern Pacific for Minneapolis.

Sunday, Aug. 10th, arrived in Minneapolis and was met at the station by Mr. Theodore Wirth, Superintendent of Parks. When I informed him that I would only be there for that day, he said I would be unable to see the Minneapolis park system in that time, and prevailed upon me to stay until Monday night, and it was well worth the extra day to observe the wonderful improvements that have taken place since my last visit seventeen years ago. The Park Commissioners will complete this year the eighth million dollar program of improvements in the park and boulevard system, that was commenced several years ago.

During my two days' stay, I was taken over the system by Mr. Wirth, the Superintendent and Mr. Godward, the Engineer of the Department, who gave me the information and data of the extnsive improvements that have been carried out in the building of many miles of fine boulevards, reclaiming of swamp lands which have added to the planting area of the

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S. S. BERRY

745 West Highland Avenue,
Redlands, California.


parks, the erection of fine refectories and boat houses, athletic fields and playgrounds, two fine eighteen-hole golf courses and club houses. At present there is under construction another eighteen-hole course, which when completed, wil glve the park system of Minneapolis the largest golf equipment of any city of its size in the country.

The Memorial Drive with its wide parkings and roadway is one of the best of the new improvements,—the rolling character and high elevation on parts of the boulevard, from which beautiful views are obtained, make this one of the finest features of the extensive improvements that will soon be completed.

Large areas of the system are covered with beautiful small natural lakes and are a source of enjoyment both in summer and winter,—boating, fishing and swimming in summer and ice skating in the winter, ad to the pleasure of the people the year round. The general maintenance of the park system is of a high order and reflects great credit to those in charge.

Wednesday, Aug. 13th, arrived in Spokane at 5:00 p. m. and spent three hours with Mr. John Duncan, Superintendent of Parks, driving over the parks and boulevards. The most notable feature was a beautiful sunken garden, which was ablaze with flowers of all descriptions. There is also a fine eighteen-hole golf course, another projected, and many improvements under way and contemplated.

It was a surprise to me to note the extensive development that has taken place in the system, which was only commenced about fourteen years ago. Having only three hours to visit before train time, I was not able to see as much as I wished. However, Spokane is progressing in the right way with their park problems.

Thursday, Aug. 15th, arrived at Portland at 8:00 a. m. and had the pleasure of driving over the park and boulevard system with Mr. Nausbommer, Assistant Superintendent of Parks, and Mr. J. B. Pilkington, the leading nurseryman of the city. Since my last visit, Portland has extended and developed its park and boulevard system to a high degree, and other extensions and improvements are under way and contemplated, which will keep Portland in the forefront of park improvement.

Saturday, Aug. 16th, arrived in San Francisco at 9:00 a. m. and visited Mr. John MacLaren, the Superintendent, whom I found in bed with an acute attack of rheumatism. After a short visit, Mr. MacLaren placed an auto and driver at my disposal for a trip around Golden Gate Park. The park was very beautiful, more so than I had seen it for some time,—the conservatory was all ablaze with fine tuberous begonias, orchids, and other beautiful flowers, and the exotic plants were in excellent condition. Outside

*Continued on page 14*

# NOTES By K. O. SESSIONS

**The Sky Flower.**

Who knows this plant? It is a fast and large-growing vine, blooming freely through the winter. Its foliage is soft and graceful, the flowers large and abundant and of a very beautiful, soft lavender-blue color. There are three large plants in the city, one on a fence at the corner of Hawk and Hunter, one covers the entire east side of the S. C. Payson residence at Loma Portal, one is in the patio of the H. H. Timken residence at Fourth and Walnut. The plant stands considerable cold, and if nipped by frost is not killed. This past summer, one eighteen inches tall, planted on the east side of Miss E. B. Scripps' new lath house at La Jolla, is now, November 1st, in flower and full of buds, and had made a good growth also. This will combine so well with the pink Tecomas, and if it can be given a sheltered position it will be an advantage, for the flowers are rather delicate in texture and easily bruised. Mrs. Payson tells me it is very satisfactory flower for a table decoration. Being a large grower, it must be planted where there is room for its roots, as well as a good spreading space for its abundant foliage. Its botanical name is Thunbergia grandiflora.

**Osteomeles Schwerinae.**

An ornamental spreading shrub, only two to three feet high, found in the Lanchiung Mountains at an altitude of 7520 feet, and common in arid regions north and south of Talifa.

The flowers are pinkish white and very fragrant, and the sweet, edible fruits are of a uniformly dull purple. This little shrub is very promising for a hedge. I have it growing in my garden and although two years old, it has not shown any blossoms. Its very fine foliage has a grayish appearance and its small branches are rather spike-like, but there are no thorns. Another year or two should prove its usefulness and beauty for this section.

Crataegus Yunnanesis is a most promising hawthorn, very spreading in its habit, but it may be grown erect. Its berries are fine in color—red—and its foliage very pleasing, being a glossy green with rounded tip. Mr. Lloyd of La Jolla has a specimen plant on his lawn about four by six feet and not over three and a half feet tall.

Younger plants on the western slope of the lawn of Mr. E. T. Guyman, Sunset Boulevard, are very excellent in appearance and are making a rapid growth. Every prostrate growing shrub with good foliage is desirable for this section, because their use as a ground cover in reducing extensive lawns is advantageous.

Crataegus Lalandi, the orange-berried hawthorn, and Crataegus cuneatum, or pyracantha, the red-berried hawthorn, both have very rigid stems and a spike-like appearance, while the C. Yunnanenis has a softer and more pleasing foliage, quite hiding its strong spine or thorn. All are fine, berry-bearing shrubs and make excellent groups, both for their foliage and berries.

John F. Rock is a very able plant collector in the employ of the U. S. Government, and has made very interesting collections of promising material in the province of Yunnan, which borders Thibet on China's Southwestern corner. This section has snow-clad peaks, twelve to twenty thousand feet high, rising from almost sub-tropical valleys. This region is, therefore, very rich in a very wide range of plants, owing to the great diversity of climates. He has been collecting there for over three years and is still continuing, finding much promising material—both for fruit and ornament.

**A New Formal Plant.**

A very promising plant for the formal tub, or small formal plant for the garden is the Ligustrum Henryii. Its foliage is a bright, dark green with leaves of small size, and the plant stands pruning well. It will also be useful for low hedges. It will grow stronger and larger than the Japanese box, and is not as dull in appearance as the common small-leafed ligustrums or privets. It will also be more useful than the Eugenia Myrtifolia, which grows so large. This shrub is in the nurseries of San Diego and by another year should be available for our local gardens.

K. O. SESSIONS.

---

**DECEMBER WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO**

December may be said to mark the beginning of the stormy season in Southern California. Precipitation, as a rule, becomes more frequent, and is often accompanied by high winds. In San Diego we may reasonably expect five or six days with measurable rain, and sometimes as many as twelve or fourteen are experienced. Unless the season is abnormally deficient in precipitation, the fall is heavy enough in this country to supplant irrigation.

Most mornings have a "snap" to them, and frost danger to tender plants and shrubs becomes acute in the canyons, and on the floor of the valleys even along the coast. In contrast to the cool nights, the days are generally pleasant, as there is much bright, cloudless weather when the temperature is moderate, the wind mild and the sunshine adequate. Hot, dessicating winds, characteristic of the fall and late spring, are rare after the middle of the month, when the land breeze usually taeks the form of a cold rather than a warm wave.

DEAN BLAKE, Meteorologist.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

## SOME OF THE NEWEST CHRYSANTHEMUMS

### Notes On Some of the New Mums as They Performed Here This Year.

**Monument.** A Hoosier seedling, pure white, 5 to 6 inches in diameter, with ordinary care. Plant medium height. Good foliage. Undoubtedly a valuable market variety. Resembles Betsy Ross. Matures Nov. 15.

**Megan.** An Indiana seedling of promise. Clear bright pink, 4 inches in diameter. Holds its color well. A tall growing plant with purple hard stems, small thick green leaves. October 28.

**Snow White.** Late, just beginning to bloom (Nov. 17). Pure white, 5 to 6 inches in diameter. A very strong grower, with an abundance of large, green leaves. Plant medium height. A promising late market variety.

**My Michigan.** Rich golden yellow; 4 inches in diameter with ordinary culture. Plant medium height. Matures Nov. 15. Promising. Originated in Michigan.

**Miss Millicent Rogers.** A very unique flower, 6 inches in diameter. A bronzy pink, something after the style of the Madame Butterfly Rose, requiring an artist to describe the flower. Plant a good grower of medium height. Matures Oct. 20.

**Rose Charm.** Pompon, button type. A beautiful bright pink, 2 inches in diameter. Resembles a pink aster. Medium height. A promising market variety. Matures Oct. 15.

**Nuggets.** Clear canary yellow, button type pompon. Flower 1¼ inches in diameter. Low stocky growing plant.

**Pink Dot.** Pompon, button type, 1¾ inches in diameter. A tall grower with splendid foliage. A very unique flower. Buds a deep rosy pink, flowers open up a light pink with a deep pink dot in the center ½ inch in diameter, finally the whole flower dot and all turns nearly white. These flowers have a delicate, pleasant, sweet odor, I have never noticed in any other mum. Matures Nov. 1. A very promising market variety.

W. A. WALLACE,
San Fernando, Cal.

Nov. 17, 1924.

**Send the Garden for Xmas.**

## GO THOU AND DO LIKEWISE

One appreciative subscriber to the magazine—living in Santa Monica—on returning his bill with a check, changed the subscription—at $1.00—to a membership at $1.50, writing below, "It's worth this much to me."

I am publishing this in hope that it may establish a precedent among those who find "California Garden" really helpful—who feel that they would like also to help support the Floral Association.

W. F. MERRILL, Secy.

## TREE DAHLIAS

There are two kinds of Tree Dahlias now in bloom and which in spite of their undoubted charm are less known than ten years ago. The chief reason for this is that blooming at this season when high winds and rain may occur at any time, they are likely to be badly mauled at their most attractive stage.

One with white bell-shaped blooms tinged with red is Imperialis, it grows from six feet to eighteen, though the writer has never seen it as short as six.

The other Excelsa, is even bigger, topping twenty feet, its blooms are crimson pink, flat, single with eight petals and a very distinct yellow center. It is distinguished by the rings round its stem made by the opposite leaf stems clasping hands round it.

The stems of these two do not die back each year, they are hard and woody and can be used for propagating, if placed horizontally in the soil they will grow from each joint.

The foliage is immense, two to three feet long and nearly as broad, very attractively broken up in small leaflets.

It is not known whether these are native species, though the latter has been in cultivation nearly one hundred years, mostly in conservatories in Europe.

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# The Nov. & Dec. Gardens

## THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary Matthews.

The planting of trees, shrubs and likewise that of annuals and perennials can still be carried on this month. In planting trees and shrubs see that the hole is large enough to take the roots without cramping and that ample moisture is supplied at this time, failure is sure to follow putting out plants where the roots are dry and likewise where they are cramped. If you have not already done so now is a good time to sow seeds of Sweet Alyssum, Agertaum, Candytuft, Shirley Poppies, Mignonette, etc. Have the soil in good, mellow condition and when the plants are large enough, if you have had any of these the previous season you will probably find enough self-sown to give you all the plants you want.

Stocks give good cutting material in the early spring, one or two savings of seed can be made now and about two weeks later the Beauty of Nice type is the best for this purpose, as they come into blossom earlier than the others,. For later sowings get the Beauty type, also the Bismarck is good though not so commonly used as the others mentioned. Annual Larkspur wants to be planted now; in buying your seed do not fail to include some of the Rosy Scarlet, also Blue Butterfly—this really comes in the perennial class, but if sown early, bloom in the early summer. It grows about 18 inches high has feathery foliage, and intense China blue blooms. Sweet peas can go in this month; remember they cannot withstand dry weather for any length of time, so give ample moisture.

Take up the Dahlia and Gladiolus bulbs which bloomed during the summer. You can also, in a short time, put in a planting of your Glad. bulbs that were lifted earlier in the season. Where you have a vacant spot tuck some of them in and they will give good cutting material later on. Spanish Iris and the Dutch Hybrids are also good for the puruse, but since the threatened embargo on bulbs, they have become scarce and high priced—so when planting save carefully all your little off-sets, and they will give blooming bulbs in the near future. It is a little late for Narcissus planting to give good results, but if you have them on hand take a chance. Ranunculus can go in from now on till the

*Continued on page 10*

## VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

The rains so far this season augur well for the fulfilment of the promises of our local scientists regarding a good supply of moisture this winter, and it is important to take advantage of the present moist state of the ground to carefully cultivate the surface, especially around plants, trees and shrubs, to open up the ground to the penetration of sun and air and discourage the further growth of weeds that have already started. Where you have a piece of ground now idle that you intend planting later, spade it up, leaving a rough surface. You will find that when you do want to make use of it, it will work up much easier and be in better physical condition for seeding or planting.

All hardy vegetable plants or seeds can be planted, either to start your garden or for succession of crop. Whenever possible in setting out either vegetable or flower plants, particularly the latter, give them some protection against hot sun and chilling winds until they are established in the ground, and if you have not used well rotted manure earlier in the season, a little commercial fertilizer mixed in the soil around your plants will help wonderfully.

November and December are good months to plant your asparagus bed. This is one of our most delicious vegetables, and unlike many other garden productions, once started you have a supply coming on every year for a number of years, if you give the bed a little attention. Asparagus roots require deep planting, which, of course, calls for deep spading and plenty of well rotted manure. Set roots in furrows ten inches deep, one foot to eighteen inches apart in rows two feet apart, using two year old roots of Palmetto or Argenteul varieties. In the fall cut away all stalks to prevent spreading of rust and dropping of seed. The following year you should have a good crop during the spring and summer, repeating the same treatment the following fall. If you mark your rows, you can utilize most of the space between them for other vegetables the first year.

The late fall and early winter is a capital time to plant a new lawn or renovate an old one, and as the old lawn is already with us, and can, without much trouble, be made an attraction to the home instead of an eyesore.

*Continued on page 10*

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

# The California Garden

A. D. Robinson, Editor
Office, Rosecroft, Point Loma, Cal.
Mrs. Sidney E. Mayer, Associate Editor
3128 Laurel, San Diego.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

## The San Diego Floral Association

Main Office, Point Loma, California

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.
California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.



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## EDITORIAL

We have waited a reasonable time for our readers to digest the very able article by Harry Johnson in reply to our assault on Grass in California, and by so doing have no doubt given the impression that we were properly pulverized, but if so it is merely another added to a long list of situations where our deeds betrayed us, we are not even phased but are pleased that our remarks were noticed.

We consider Mr. Johnson's brief to be for Grass in the abstract while our asault was upon Grass in Southern California, and his references to what has been done through the ages as a strengthening of our point that California should make a start to garden for California and not be a more or less indifferent copy of gardening elsewhere.

We are now coming under the domination of the landscape gardener. Even the realtor, with the acquisition of this almost regal title, calls in a landscaper to plot his subdivision and modern cemeteries ask his help in planting the dead. This landscaper is too frequently schooled in very different environment to ours, he probably, doing his novitiate, sat at a window gazing upon grass nibbling his pencil, while he tried to think what Boboli said was the first principle in gardening, and walked out upon grass when he had given up trying to remember. His was a country where it is easier to grow grass of some sort than not to have it and most significant of all he had an umbrella and lots of use for it. We asked a successful landscaper with a half century of wide experience, "What he considered the first essential for one of these kind of people?" and he replied, "To know his material." We would like to add to this, To sense his environment.

Some time ago, long enough to be almost "in the old days", San Diego acquired a landscape man of considerable Eastern fame, George Cook, he lived some years here, most unfortunately for us being killed in an accident in the back country, and shortly before his death, he said of himself that he was just getting to be of some use as a landscaper in Southern California.

We are fond of talking about axiomatic principles, foundation ideas, and the like and probably the art of landscape gardening lays claim to a few, but it is fairly questionable whether in the garden anything is absolute, except that that which is planted shall have a chance to grow. Styles of houses have so changed, the demands of life have so altered, such as room for the smelly auto, that what was appropriate is now ridiculous.

The art of landscaping was built up, as far as we know it, in Europe, and its record there has been full of extremes, such as sculpture in trees when animals and birds and geometric figures were clipped in evergreens, and the carpet bedding phase. We have been taught or have slipped into the habit of speaking of the Gardens of Versailles in France with bated breath, and they are wonderful in their way, but they are the last word in formality and belong to the time of Kings and Queens and courts and powdered hair and long trains to dresses and satin knee pants with ribbons. To duplicate them, except for the movies, in Southern California would be to travesty a beautiful tradition. The auto in Versailles would be a crime and the driver should be drowned in a butt of gasoline. The old gardens that are still young are the natural ones, those that grew through the centuries as part of the natural landscape around them.

We have now returned to our old demand of a California Garden for Californians, and that reminds us that following what we wrote in the August issue we were asked to supply a copy of our list of what was grown in the old Mexican time California garden and had to confess that we were simply guessing, and we thus humiliate ourselves here to ask for any information that any one may have on this subject.

We want to theorise a bit more about, Why an artist in this case a Landscape one. We are not any kind of an artist but have gathered that the real artist is the one that injects into his technique a something from or of his individuality that marks his work as his, in other words he dares to do something diffierent. We know and were patronized by a real portrait painter at one time, he had an international reputation, and he said of his

own work, "Lots of chaps paint better than I do, but I have a knack of catching a likeness," and the cuss had. The same fellow occasionally took art classes and his method of teaching to begin with was to say to the pupil, "Draw that," and when asked, "How?" would say, "What does it look like to you, draw it that way." Even his fellow artists admitted that this chap was an artist. One might go on indefinitely instancing success following revolt almost, but this is supposed to be about gardening.

The limitations imposed by the material being growing living things, are very considerable, enough to prevent any desperate innovation in gardening, but they all point to a natural foundation, a constant review of the wild to regulate the tame. This is being done more than we realize. Take, for instance, our natural reaction when any new growth is submitted for our consideration, at once we ask, Where does it come from? and on the answer our hopes for it depend. We welcome things from Australasia and South Africa and indeed they tend to naturalize with us, but we are dubious about those from the Grass countries. There are a wonderful lot of things from similar climates to ours, things that will fit in with our native growths and we hunger for a landscaper who will prove himself an artist by saying, To—— with your grass, to a corner with your roses, to Los Angeles with your old designs, I will make a garden for California with things that like her and that she likes and can care for without any one being a hose and sprinkler artist. Let these lands of rain and fog and snow have their grass, they have it any how, they cannot help it, it is in their fields and their sheep and such graze on it, and when they want a lawn they just go and dig up the sod and place it and stamp on it and all the children from the third and fourth generation to the bitter end, mow it and roll it, and weed it, and their elders play bowls on it, and the darned lawn owns the whole family. Don't we know it, the only picture of us as a boy is of a thin, big eyed tad in knee pants leaning on the handles of the family lawn mower, a fearsome instrument that should have had a catrepillar tractor to tow it, it combined mower and roller and whenever it refused to cut a blacksmith across the road was called in, he had the village variety with his chestnut tree faded a mile and the muscles of his brawny arms defied mere iron bands. This huge chap would take a wrench and tighten up the works till it had to cut and just shove it along in a run, but that poor boy in knee pants and all the other poor boys, in and out of pants, how they worked and sweated and the lawn ever grew. Many a life has been permanently discouraged by the lawns of the old world. Perhaps here is some of the reason for our attack upon lawns, we were not permanently discouraged for we left for America in time, but is was a close call.

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### UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

The United States Civil Service Commission announces the following open competitive examination:

**Plant Quarantine Inspector**

An examination for plant quarantine inspector will be held throughout the country on December 10. It is to fill vacancies in the Federal Horticultural Board, Department of Agriculture, at an entrance salary of $1,860 a year. Advancement in pay may be made without change in assignment up to $2,400 a year.

The duties of the position are to assist in the enforcement of the various quarantine and regulatory orders issued under the plant quarantine act of August 20, 1912.

Competitors will be rated on either entomology or plant pathology, practical questions in plant-inspection work, and education and experience.

Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the board of U. S. civil service examiners, at the postoffice or custom house in any city.

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### IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

I see them plowing up the flowers,
The carpet rich of gold and blue
Wherewith indulgent nature here
Covers the ground for me and you.

I see them hack the willow trees,
The striplings confident and gay,
That came up, sure we would admire,
To clothe the dried-up waterway.

I see them fell the cypresses,
Peppers, and eucalyptus old,
Whose venerable forms afford
Beauty and shade to men untold.

Are men so brutish then, that where they go
There they must ever crush the beauty out?
It seems so; yet I hope for better days,
And hope that I may help to bring those days about.

—Dorothea Mitchell.

---

**Send the Garden for Xmas.**

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### NO DECEMBER MEETINGS

Owing to the holiday activities there will be no meetings of the Floral Association in December, but plans are well under way for a bumper opening of the new year in January.

# THE ROSE

## SOME OF THE NEWER ROSES

Forrest L. Hieatt.

With the planting season approaching the Rose-lover, new and old, veteran and novice, is confronted with the ever perplexing problem of "What varieties to plant". For in the breast of every Rosarian there is the constant hope for something new or better in color, in fragrance, in size, in form, in habit, in disease resistance or in everblooming qualities and we want to spend our budget allowance for new roses with the least possible chance of disappointment and failure.

The conventional Rose Catalogue deals principally in superlatives in describing their ware which makes it all the more disconcerting to the average prospective buyer. Frequently one will see different roses described on the same page as the "Best of the yellows", "the best red rose", "the sweetest of roses", etc., etc., caused by the carrying over the description year after year without any attempt at revising. It is encouraging to note that our leading rose firms are discarding such statements as above and there is at least one large grower that I know that points out such defects as "Does not open well", "susceptible to black spot", etc.

Taking these things into account and knowing that I had tried out some of the newer roses is what probably prompted the Editor to ask for this article.

New among the yellows, Souvenir de Claudius Pernet is a distinct novelty. Its upright growth, its clear yellow blooms on long well proportioned stems, its fine foliage and its wonderful substance make it an ideal rose and although it doesn't open so well early in the season it makes up for this when the days are hot and other roses are not at their best. It is a fine companion for Golden Emblem and Mrs. S. K. Rindge and with them should be in every collection. Constance is very much like the last named two and does well for me.

Iona Herdman gives a lovely bloom but on account of its sprawly habit I would not recommend it except budded on a standard as it should make a fine "weeping standard".

Irene Thompson, with large full beautiful flower of deep ruddy gold overlaid with a bronze or coppery shading, is one of the most distinct and loveliest of the newer shades, yet I hesitate to recomend it as it has failed to make the wood I should like and there seems to be some tendency of "dying back" of the wood. With another year's trial I hope to be more definite about it.

Souvenir de Georges Pernet is another of Mons. Pernet-Ducher's roses with real merit. Very large full blooms of orient red with cochineal and yellow shadings, always opening perfectly in all weathers. Growth more spreading and foliage not as magnificent as with "Claudius", but a distinct novelty nevertheless.

Padre, coppery scarlet with yellow at base of petals, of upright growth with long stems topped with wonderfully elongated buds is a rose I can heartily recommend.

The Queen Alexandra Rose, with petals of a lively vermillion on a deep yellow base shading to old gold on the back is the showiest rose in my garden. It is not as robust as I would like to see it, yet it is distinct and entirely worth while.

Louise Catherine Breslau, while not exactly a new rose, should be included in every collection. Its buds are coral red shaded with chrome yellow, its expanded flowers, which are very large, are of a superb shrimp—pink shaded with coppery—orange and chrome yellow, the inner petals reflexing and resembling a large satiny peony. It has wonderful substance and will last many days. It is one of my real favorites.

Una Wallace, a soft even-toned cherry rose, without shading, gives promise of being a very good rose. Could be more floriferous.

Hill's America, much advertised and no doubt a fine rose under glass, is not altogether satisfactory under out hot sun, however, at this writing, November 23, it is producing some lovely blooms.

Mrs. Henry Morse is a new McGredy rose of lovely pink with long pointed buds which should prove a winner.

Ophelia, its many sports and roses of its type make ideal florists roses and do very well as a garden rose most of the time; Sylvia, Mrs. Hillas, Mad. Butterfly and Fragrant Bouquet are among the best of the kind.

Now as to singles and semi-singles, I am glad that this type is growing more and more in popular favor and being appreciated in all its graceful loveliness. They are wonderful for rose bowls and table decorations, the buds are fine for corsages. We are all more or less familiar with Irish Fireflame. Irish Elegance, Old Gold and Isobel. Isobel is the most outstanding of the lot with Fireflame ranking next. , Ethel James, somewhat like Isobel with color somewhat softer and base of petals lighter, outer end of petals pinkish vermillion. Dwarf polyantha type of growth, blooms in pannicles. Fine for garden effect but not so good for cutting.

Dr. Huey, a semi-climber or pillar rose is totally different from any other rose. It is covered with its lovely semi-double flowers of dark crimson-maroon a full month in the springtime.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

Paul's Scarlet Climber is another new rose of real merit, its name is fully descriptive.

Hugonis, a native species of Western China, with long arching branches closely set with lovely clear yellow single flowers, blooms very early in the spring and makes a fine specimen shrub which adds much to its value.

I have only tried one new red rose and although one eastern grower is continually sounding its praises, I cannot recommend Mme. Meha Sabatier, as its behavior has not been satisfactory. With Hadley, Edward Mawley, Hoosier Beauty and MacArthur we have a quartet with which we are familiar and which seem to meet our needs in their color. Gloire de Chedane Guinnoisseau, so much admired at the Spring Show, produces most wonderful blooms of crimson, shaded vermillion. It being a hybrid perpetual does not bloom much through the summer but it is desirable and very much worth while.

Although I have not grown it, K. of K. from my observation of those growing in the Park, is very desirable. A vivid scarlet with blooms semi-double and very floriferous. It is fine for mass effect.

We can all well afford to be loyal, those California roses produced by the noted hybridist, Mr. Fred Howard, of Howard and Smith, Los Angeles, for they are the leaders in their class. "Los Angeles" has been voted the most popular garden in England by both amateur and professional growers. A very distinct honor considering the thousands of English varieties grown. Does it not hold the same place here at home? Wm. F. Dreer is a fit companion for Los Angeles, as is Mrs. Wm. C. Egan, differing from it principally in color and shadings. And then there is Mrs. S. K. Rindge, to my mind the best yellow garden rose to date. It is attractive to its last petal by reason of the beautiful tints it takes on as it ages. It is of vigorous growth and is not affected by mildew. There is not a single mark against it.

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## WORK AMONG ROSES

It seems but a few weeks, though it is a full year, since the rose activities started for the season. So many folks have come from Eastern States and Middle West, and they still think of a rose in November as something to be put to bed under brush or ashes, so that the grip of winter will not squeeze the life out of it, and to them be it said that November in California corresponds approximately to early spring in the East. Only approximately because though with the first rains the grass and wild flowers start growth, the temperature of the ground is lowering slightly all the time and will do so for three months, and during that time California comes as near dormant roses as it ever does. This much to arouse those who have been prepared for a good, long wait before beginning on ther roses.

At this time the roses in our gardens are in all stages. In most of them they have been irrigated all the year and made to work overtime and these have earned a rest and should be left severely alone, certainly not pruned for a couple of months, as this will start new growth, likely to be very weakly from the long summer drain on the bushes. Those who really love their roses have withheld water for the late summer months and have now well matured wood, these can be lightly pruned, well watered (rains have not yet penetrated enough to help a rose and are not likely to till the new year), and mulched with a fertilizer, and they will probably give a nice winter crop of bloom when roses are scarce. This taking of a winter crop does interfere with the regular spring yield in so far that it puts it off a few weeks. When the pruning has been done there will be a little or no foliage and a spraying with Bordeaux mixture or Lime Sulphur, is indicated, to be followed by one of the treatments for prevention of mildew every two or three weeks after leaves have grown again. Notice that this is a preventive not a cure and it is practiced by good rosarians all the world over, mildew is not exclusively ours, Lime Sulphur spray leaves an unsightly white deposit and flower of sulphur dusted on it is no better. The Sulphuric acid solution leaves no mark and has proved effective. The formula is one part of acid to fifteen hundred of water which worked out in ounces gives one ounce of a solution (one of acid to twelve ounces of water) to a gallon, or near enough for practical purposes. All parts of the bush should be thoroughly covered.

And now about planting new rosebushes. It would seem that everybody should know all about this but that they don't is pitifully exhibited all the time. Firstly, this is not naturally a rose country, its soil is apt to be sandy, shallow and hot, and the rose thrives in deep cool clayey compounds, therefore before planting roses prepare their beds. Dig out the ground for two, better three feet, separating the top soil and that nameless stuff below, if your ground is sandy get some adobe and mix with it, also some fertilizer, barnyard is best, and some bone meal, a good handful to a hole, stir this all up and put it back, irrigate it well, and let it stand a week or so before planting and also stir it again when planting. Make holes plenty large enough to allow all roots to be spread out flat in all directions, if possible, and have the earth a little higher in the center of the hole so as to give roots a little downward tendency. Plant two inches below the graft or if on own roots an inch below the former depth. Firm the ground well, sifting the soil around the

roots so as to have no air spaces. Water enough to go well below the roots and see they don't get dry afterwards.

As to varieties. Plant the old tried sorts but put in one bush at least of the new things. In reds General MacArthur is certain, Hoosier Beauty is good, Red Radiance also and in the darker shades Hadley is worthwhile, and now and then Crimson Queen, though she does not hold her color, her form is splendid. K. of K. is a wonderful color, and what has become of Richmond.

In whites Frau Karl Druschki, to be watched for mildew and very intolerant of moisture on petals. Kaserin Augusta Victoria, splendid in form and stem, not so white and Mrs. Herbert Stevens, perfect in form. That old favorite which is the equal of any White Cochet, but not really white, a yellowy tinge with pink on outside petals. By all means plant White Cochet.

In pinks, Radiance, Mrs. George Arends, Rose Marie and why not Caroline Testout, the pinkest of them all.

Yellows, Mrs. Aaron Ward, Golden Emblem, Mrs. Rindge, Iona Herdman, Lady Hillingdon and we must learn how to grow Marchal Niel.

In the apricots, Los Angeles, Joseph Hill, Souvenir de Stella Gray, Madame Heriot, etc.

In the semi-singles that have such delightful buds, Irish Elegance and Fireflame, Old Gold and Isabel.

This is not a list merely suggestions and all the newer ones are mising, but most of these should be given a place.

## THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

*Con'd from Pge. 5*

I shall give a few simple directions, so that the uninitiated may, without much trouble, get rid of that greatest discouragement around a place, an old lawn practically taken possession of by Bermuda grass or "devil grass." Once the cooler weather starts devil grass practically stops growing or becomes semi-dormant, as it requires a warm condition of soil to promote growth.

So go over your lawn thoroughly with a rake and tear the surface of the sod from every angle. Then rake it thoroughly in one direction, removing everything that is loose. This will leave the ground covered with Bermuda grass runners, which cut off with your lawn mower, going over the ground from several different directions. If you want to do a good job, repeat the process again which will leave the surface of the lawn in such a condition that the Bermuda grass runners are pretty well eliminated and the surface of the ground is scratched enough to allow a quick growing small seed, like white clover, to make a good start, provided you keep it moist. Use from one-third to one-half pound of clover to every three hundred square feet of lawn, scattering evenly over the ground. As most old lawns are in need of fertilizer, it will help tremendously to use a good commermerical fertilizer at the rate of fifty pounds to every thousand or fifteen hundred square feet.

While this treatment will not give you a new lawn, it makes the old one quite presentable for another year, and as the clover grows very quickly, you see a great improvement in the lawn almost immediately. There is a capital rake for doing this work, called a Cutter Bar Rake, it is rather expensive, but does a wonderful job when properly used.

Don't forget to complete your bulb planting in November or December. You will have beter results than planting later. Try a few bulbs of the wonderful new lily from China, Lilium Regale, large white blooms, shading to light or yellow and pink at the end of the petals; very fragrant. Also Alstromeria, Lily of the Incas. Wonderful cut flowers in shadings of yellow, orange, pink, etc.

## WHAT HAVE YOU TO DONATE

The Roosevelt Junior High School, situated in the north end of the Park, has an interesting new lath house for use of Science classes studying Plant Propagation.

A space thirty feet square is used as a work room and contains the usual sand boxes, cutting tables, flats and pots. This is in the rear and occupies what was once a small canyon. Steps lead from this level to one two feet higher—a space fifty feet square. This is to be used for planting purposes, to demonstrate the possibilities of a lath house and furnish cuttings and study materials in the future .

In order that this space may be planted without waiting for seedlings and cuttings to develop, possibly some of the readers of the "California Garden" who have extra lath house plants will be glad to donate them for that purpose. They will be very much appreciated.

CATHARINE M. WOOD.
Hillcrest 1573-J.

## THE FLOWER GARDEN

*Continued from page 5*

first of the year, likewise Anemones. I read, the other day somewhere, that in California November is the month when we return thanks for what has been given us the past month, also when we make preparation for the coming months by getting everything in readiness for the coming season. Cleaning up all the debris that has accumulated in the garden by putting it on the compost heap, by burning, or where practicable turning it under. Get your entire garden in shape to get all the benefit from the abundant rains we are promised this coming winter.

# BEGONIA CHAT

## BEGONIA NOMENCLATURE

By Alfred D. Robinson.

This title means a kind of introduction to you, as if I said Mrs. So-and-So meet Begonia Carolinaefolia, and is, I confess, used rather for style, as I expect under it to express myself any old way. To be a stickler for names in the Begonia section of our shows is to precipitate a fight right away. To attempt to get straightened out afterwards in any garden library is to arrive at a state of bewilderment that baffles description, but I have spent many hours with Bailey, and I propose to add the result to the essence of a million conversations with everybody who would talk Begonia during the past decade and more, and try and give in plain language a brief description and history of some of our Begonias, I am quite tired of the airs that the Dahlia folks have put on as they run off an endless string of names and types and titles and am working up a counter offense.

Bailey starts off with **B. Scharffiana** and so please meet him. This Begonia comes from Brazil and therefore needs the warmest situation in our lath houses and perhaps would best be potted up and taken under shelter during the winter, though it has passed two winters quite cheerfully in the lath house at Rosecroft. Scharffiana is a small grower though its leaves are large, green, above, red under and very hairy, the stems are woody and red and the flowers are borne on long drooping stalks, being white with crimson seed vessels. The most characteristic feature is the sheath of the leaf bud, a light green hood like contrivance that opens at the side to let the leaf out, and its best reason for living is that it is one of the parents of **Duchartrei**, the other being **Echinosepala** (that should hold any Dahliaite for a while). Duchartrei is a much larger grower making regular canes, its leaves are smaller, its stem less woody, and it does not need a shave so badly and the introducer was one Bruant. **Echinosepala** is not on my calling list, but Bailey makes a bluff at its picture thus, stem succulent green, leaves obliquely oblong, flowers in axillary peduncles, white with curious papilose sepals. If you don't know about that papilose, it is a term of consideration for pimples. There is another cross from Scharffiana with Metallica, called Credneri, this is like Duchartrei but has smaller longer leaves and its smaller flowers are held erect and not drooping. This would seem to be the sort that I have always called **The Other One**, because when Miss Sessions used to come around in my Kindergarten Begonia days I always asked her to name three very much alike, and she would say this is Duchartrei, this Haageana, and this the other one, I cannot remember its name now. Haageana is the finest of the triplets, it is a native of Brazil and has often been sold in the trade for Scharffiana, and the purchaser was not hurt, for Haageana is one of the best of the fibrous Begonias, perhaps the very best medium grower. When well grown its leaves are very large and handsome green with red nerves, and its flower trusses are magnificent, borne on good long stems, white flushed with rose, most attractive before opening appearing like pods. These flowers are very good for cutting. In growing it remember it is native of a tropic clime and don't put it in a shady place. It is also one of the best for potting. All these should be in bloom now and will bloom all winter with proper care.

At the beginning I introduced Carolinaefolia and then went off and forgot her, but probably she did not care, as she has been forgotten by most folks. This old variety comes from Mexico, it is a low grower making a thick root stalk from which spring large heavy stemmed leaves, divided just like our California finger fern, its flowers are small, pink, borne in panicles early in the year. Its chief reason for notice here is that with **Manicata** it produced **Verschaffeltiana** (Bailey has added another syllable to that already horrific name). Every one knows this, today it has huge light green leaves uneven like a grape leaf but almost a foot across, and in March it will send up strong bloom stalks to be topped with a shower of pink blooms a foot and a half across (measure taken last season). Bailey describes its flowers as pendent on long peduncles and perhaps that is right, for Webster says, a peduncle is a stalk, but that stalk is stiff and straight and often the blooms are out before the rains stop, and then the weight of them will break off the stalk at the stem, where it is loosely hinged as is the peculiar way of Begonias.

There is another cross of Carolinaefolia with Polyantha called Coronata but the information about either of them is too vague to bear repeating here.

The Begonia **Manicata** mentioned as partly responsible for **Versch** is also a native of Mex-

ico. This is one of the creeping sorts and is noticeable for its rings of red hair around its leaf stalks, the leaf is green and smooth and the flowers are pink very fine and dainty. A sport of it has golden spots on the leaf and is known as **Aureo Maculata.** This latter wants a good strong light to spot satisfactorily.

**Paul Bruant** is put down in Bailey, as a Manicata seedling, but my Paul Bruant does not look like it, for it has a fleshy upright stem and branches, also a much cut in leaf. However, Feastii is from Manicata, this is the very recumbent kind with waterlily like leaves that will cover a mound most satisfactorily. The leaves are almost round, dark green above and dark red underneath, and early in the year it sends up pink bloom stalks till the plant is covered. Now comes the fight. Mrs. Frank Waite, whose word on Begonia I am apt to consider final, says that she knew this Begonia as **Sanguinea** before John Feast of Baltimore named it Feastii, but if I accept that, which I cannot help wanting to do, what becomes of the other plant listed as Sanguinea from Rio de Janeiro, similarly colored but with longer shaped leaves, and which grows up in the air, if it will consent to grow at all. I knew I ought not to venture along this thorny path.

There are two crested sports, one of Sanguinea or Feastii, take your choice, called **Bunchii** with ruffles on the edges of the leaves, so-called after one Bunch not because of the ruffles, and the other of Manicata Aureo Maculata which answers to that name with Cristata tacked on.

The other parent of the Begonia whose name is in dispute was **Hydrocotylifolia,** or so Bailey says, I am from Missouri, and no Begonia I ever saw could grow, much less bear pollen, with that name. Hydro is from Mexico, it is said to creep along the ground with round leaves and rose colored flowers and its all over production is hair. The description reads like the disputed, all except the hair.

Next month I hope to challenge the authorities with another article similar to this. One of its main objects is to try and bring forth all the information possible about Begonias, and it has seemed to the writer that his only hope to get any, is to begin disseminating misinformation. However, the other fellow is wrong.

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### OH MY HANDS

A gray-haired little old lady following a young, vigorous bobbed one was halted by an exhibit in a hardware store. It was an up-to-the-minute gardening basket. The basket was up-curved at both ends so that it could not rest comfortably on its own bottom and decorated in two colors and as if that were not enough, it had a bow of blue ribbon to tie up its bonny white handle. At the bottom of the basket was a piece of linoleum to keep off the dirt and the tools of the trade were all there. A trowel, with blade half robin's egg blue, that would lose its handle if it ever assayed to dig, a pair of scissors warranted to cut paper patterns, a hand-painted pencil, two different types of wood labels, a few envelopes, a ball of string, also colored, and a pair of gloves. The old lady looked and laughed and said to her compaion, "It is all bad enough, Why the gloves?" and the young one said, "Why, to protect one's hands, do you think I would mess in the dirty ground without gloves?" and she turned up her pink nails on the ends of her smooth, white hands and frankly admired them.

That evening the couple sat by the fire and Grandma said, "I cannot get that gardening basket out of my mind, especially those pesky gloves, and I don't suppose I will till I have had my say, though I know my say is hopelessly Mid-Victorian, is not that what you term the thing you dislike and don't want to argue about." She put down her knitting, and youth took up a box of chocolates, and thus eased her mind. "I always liked a bit of garden and wanted to make it myself, I liked, and still like, the feel of the earth on my hands, I don't call it dirt, I don't think of it as dirty, to me it smells good, it feels good, and I often thought it tasted good. When my garden was just a patch by the shanty with no design either in paths or beds, I grew my seedlings in any shaped or sized box I could get, sometimes in my cooking pans that had finally gone beyond repair, and they were moved around to get the most sun in or outside the house, or shade, maybe, later in the year, and I could hardly wait till the little plants grew big enough to set out, because then I really got to play with the soil.

"My! I can feel it now oozing between my fingers as I squeezed it to break up lumps. I knew just by the feel if it were right for planting. When it broke crumbly and kind of slowly, not giving way all of a sudden and pouring like sand, but being sort of reluctant about it sort of anxious to get around some root and make it grow. I loved to size up my plant and make the hole to fit and then with both hands to firm the soil around it and rake it even with my fingers, no tool in the world ever could do all the jobs of planting like fingers. Many is the time I would push my hand under the soil up to my elbow and then wiggle my fingers till first one and then the others would come up like worms. Speaking of worms, did you ever see anything cleaner than a worm that has tied itself into a knot in its own little home in the earth, have you noticed the peacock bloom on its skin when it comes pushing to the top to

see what is toward as the spade vibrates its world. And then to feature gardening gloves, and those great big cotton things without any feel. No! kneepads, Yes, sunbonnets if you must, any other darned thing, but no Gloves for a real honest to goodness gardener."

### CRINUMS

This family of bulbous plants allied to the Amaryllis, from which the bulb differs only in having a longer neck, is worthy of better patronage in our Southern California gardens. The variety generally seen is Longifolium which being a native of Natal will stand endless abuse here, and it usually gets it being located in the hardest part of the garden in full sun with water as a casual application, whereas the species generally responds to partial shade and regular moisture and can stand a rich soil mixture. Longifolium, which has been many times introduced to the writer as Spider Lily, is a small variety with long slender foliage and an umbel of spikey white flowers tinted with red, not very attractive.

Two kinds of supreme merit which in the right situation, partial shade as under a tree, are most charming are Moorei and Powellii, the latter being a cross of Moorei with Longifolium. Moorei is also South African, its flowers borne on stout stems are pink three to four inches across and very lily-like also sweet scented, and the foliage if shaded and well watered will remain attractive throughout the year, it disappears in full sunlight. The flower stalk starts from the side and not the top of the bulb and its manner of seeding is peculiar. The seed, if seed it be, is formed in the usual place for seed, the end of the flower stem, but is more like a very rough bulb often an inch in diameter or more, inside a thin onion-like skin. In time the stalk bends over to the ground the skin breaks and the seed falls out. In a short time this seed sends out a thick root, apparently from whichever part of it hits the ground, and then from this root grows the bulb which roots on its own account and sends up leaves and becomes independent of the original seed. Powellii is very like Mooreii but comes in white as well as pink and a red is also rumored.

Here and there an immense Crinum appears, Mrs. Frank Waite has one that makes a Banana look slender, it is Pedunculatum a variety of Asiaticum from China. Its flowers are greenish white many in an umbel but individually much narrower than Mooreii and Powellii and borne on shorter stems. The foliage is enormous six inches wide and many feet long and the bulbs grow feet through.

Bailey lists over twenty varieties of Crinum some of which read tantalizingly, and it might be worth some one's time to make a collec-


# Begonia Brevities

Rosecroft has harvested the choicest Begonia seed in its career of special providence to these plants, including a wide range of varieties. It has, however, specialized on hand fertilized HANGING TUBEROUS and REX. In the Tuberous seed has been saved from the wonderful White Lady Blanche and other colors through pinks, yellows and orange, to deep red in a variety of types, using the best specimens in each case, and this seed has already been tested and found of the best fertility.

In REXES, seed has been obtained from the choicest sorts, many of which have not heretofore yielded seed at Rosecroft, and many others are now under shelter from the rains to mature seed pods that they are carrying. We have eighty varieties, many of which are our own.

Seed will also be obtainable from a large range of the fibrous, from bedding varieties up to the tallest growers, included in these will be some of Rosecroft's new seedlings, not yet on the market.

List now ready, if you care for one, send a card and it will come to you when ready.

**ROSECROFT BEGONIA GARDENS**

POINT LOMA, CALIF.

**Alfred D. Robinson, Prop.**

tion. From there nativity one might deduce a fondness for the climate of Southern California. There is only one American species, Crinum Americana, the Swamp Lily of Florida.

### MORLEY'S TRIP TO EUROPE

*Continued from page 2*

flowers were a mass of bloom,— asters, snapdragons, and the finest summer flowering stocks that I have ever seen.

In my visit to the parks in England, France and Holland, I found none to compare with the landscape of Golden Gate Park. While they have the beautiful oaks, beeches, lindens, poplars, elms, pines, larch and other fine trees in the European parks, there was not one among them of like extent that rivaled the beauties of Golden Gate Park.

Sunday, Aug 17th, I left San Francisco on the Coast Limited, daylight train, for Los Angeles, so that I could see California with its ever-changing and beautiful landscape and scenes along the seashore, in the day time, and I enjoyed every minute of the ride, arriving in Los Angeles in the evening.

Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 18th and 19th, spent the time with members of the American Florists' Convention at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. Left for San Diego at 3:00 p. m., arriving at 6:30 p. m., glad to arrive home in San Diego again, after enjoying a very interesting and instructive trip, both in Europe and America, that was sincerely appreciated.

### NOVEMBER WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO

To many, November is the most pleasant of the pleasant twelve months of the year. The days are generally fine, clear and invigorating; the nights are cool and restful; and the humidity is at low ebb. The exception occurs when dry, northerly high-pressure winds are blowing; then the temperature is apt to range between 80 and 90 degrees, and, due to the excessive dryness of the air, some discomfort is experienced. hTese hot spells, however, average about one visitation during the month each year, and many Novembers pass without their appearance.

Sunshine is plentiful, this month having the highest percentage of the year. Only four days with rain may be expected, and high winds are uncommon. Light or heavy frost is extremely rare in the city, but occasionally forms during the early morning hours in exposed places back from the coast.

DEAN BLAKE, Meteorologist.

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# Our San Diego Mountains In Autumn

"As the crow flies," fifty miles from the sea lies an enchanted country which as yet has scarcely been exploited, except perhaps by those who go by the highways, and who see little of the hidden wonders of the deep canyons and fertile valleys, just glimpses of the hovering crags and grand panorama of scenery, as they sweep by in their fast moving cars.

Few really appreciate, aside from this beauty the value and importance of our southern mountains, which hold within themselves the life and prosperity of the coast country. Without their sky-piercing summits to force the moisture from the clouds, the region near the sea would receive but a very small part of the rainfall it needs. Without their extensive and conserving reservoirs the precipitation that comes during the fall and winter months, could not be held in reserve for use during the dry season. Without the canyons and streams to center the drainage and bring the life-saving fluid within the reach of man, the valley soil would lie idle and vacant, and the sunny land of the south would be nothing but a barren waste.

Nature balances her forces, and nowhere else has she made a nicer adjustment than in our lovely southern mountains; nowhere else has she used such extremes of precipitation and drouth, such jumbles of mountain and fullness of valley. Such eccentric water courses, and such forests of wonderful trees, and wealth of elfin watershed. The diversity of climate, as well as crops marks our mountains as being a world unto itself.

Our beautiful Palomar mountains is wonderously grand in its long stretches of elfin growth at its foot, and ascending slopes—carries in its hoary summits amongst the pines and spruces a vast storehouse of gushing springs. The Volcan range and Hot Springs mountains are sources of rushing waters, fed in winter by frequent snows and heavy rainfall. The Cuyamacas, the three giant sentinels of the southland, stand at the "Place of Waters"—and contribute a vast watershed. The last in the link—the Lagunas, catch and carry in its mighty fastnesses, a wealth of water which can scarce be estimated, "water is king", is a trite expression.


# GLAD TIDINGS

Are universal during the holiday season.

If you haven't wondered what to give some friend or relative as a Christmas gift yours must be an unusual case.

A box of Glad bulbs, nicely done up in Christmas paper and seals and post-paid to any address in the U. S. A., will make a most satisfactory gift.

These boxes may be secured for from $1.00 up.

Here's an added feature—they not only bring joy when received, but six months later they will bring added happiness and pleasure and with a minimum amount of care will increase and multiply. Ever the thought will remain, "I received these beautiful flowering bulbs from my dear friend." What more could one wish than to give a gift that would add happiness as the years roll by.

The lowest price is 1 dozen different Gladiolus bulbs for $1.00. All you need do is send me the names and addresses of those to whom you wish the boxes sent and your check or P. O. Money Order and I will do the rest. Cultural directions in each box.

## Ralph F. Cushman

GROWER OF

EARLY MATURED SUN-CURED GLADIOLI AND DAHLIAS.

*BOX 5-A* *Point Loma, California*

September, October and November, magic months, full of potent possibilities for the coming season, combining as they do the Indian summer, with the commencement of the rainy season, they stand for the fruitation of one year's fullness and the beginning of another season.

September is, indeed, our golden month. Glorious tints of gold, crimson and orange begin to appear among the more sombre shades of summer's foliage. The poison ivy leaves are among the first to change to flaming red, the oaks, the chestnuts and all the deciduous trees gradually turn from yellow and golden brown to flaming red in orchard and on the hillsides, till it would seem at a distance the forests were ablaze. It is harvest time, and red and yellow cheeked apples burden the boughs, bins and boxes are being filled with the fruits of the hills and fields.

The beautiful days are so perfect that it seems a pity they should end, although gorgeous sunsets mark their close, one can stand and drink in these marvelous settings of nature's handiwork and never tire.

October; these are the days of wondrous blue skies, flecked with clouds of fleecy white and cool, gentle breezes: "The clouds are at play in the azure space, And thin shadows at play on the bright green vale, And here they stretch to the frolic chase; And there they roll on the easy gale."

The first rains of the season! What magic it brings! The mountains and its coverings grow "green in a night" as it were, and litterally sparkle with new life, autumn is spring in this queer paradox of climatic conditions. Frequent showers of short duration, sunshine and shadow, like smiles and tears alternate, cool and clear is the forecast for the day, as jack frost touches bush, vine and tree, with his glistening wand—at night. Leaves of the deciduous oaks and trees flutter and fall, or fly away in the fresh breezes, to bank against some fence or bush in great rustling heaps, or cover the tiny blades of grass, which are pushing up, in every nook and corner, as a bird covers its young. In a short time the hills and mountain valleys will be green with verdure, it takes so short a time, one can almost consider it a miracle, as watching the swift change from tan to green and dormant seed to living plants.

In November we cannot sing with the poet: "The melancholy days have come, The saddest of the year." Instead we can sing of clear skies, bright sunshine, happiness in living, and thankfulness for the fullness of nature! Again and again the welcoming rain has come, filling the underground reservoirs and springs to overflowing, so that the long dry water ways have gone rushing down the ravines, toward the impounding dams, built to receive the floods of water. True the air has an "edge" that puts new life into the people who dare the higher altitudes. The east winds, coming at intervals, battle the mountain mists, which creeps from crag to crag, trying to enwreath the forest topped mountains with their frosty breath, but failing in their efforts are torn away and scattered far and near. The east wind, at times, roaring and tearing like a mighty giant, through mountain and valley, carries in its terrible sweep a threat and force that is appalling, but no harm can follow its path. Hill and hollow, with dense forest windbreaks, weaken its force till it calms down impotent in its weakness. Thanksgiving in its fullness is all about, garnered crops and the fullness of the earth thereof make of the mountain life a thing of joy, freedom, health and happiness, storm and strife so far away its echoes cannot even reach the summits of our mountains, calm, clear and clean, life goes on till called to go over the Great Divide.

**Selected**

As the crow flies—so runs the saying old;
Because the crow flies straightest, I am told,
I think his way must be a pleasant way—
I saw a crow take wing and fly today.
From a tall pine upon a mountain steep
He set his course across a chasm deep.
A river in the gorge roared far below—
High in the blue above he soared, the crow.
The gorge divided him from his intent,
Straight on an air path to his goal he went;
I stood and watched—with all my pulses singing—
As to his far desire the crow went winging,
Swift as an arrow speeding from its quiver,
Across the chasm and the roaring river—
What errand took him only he could know.
He had the will, he had the wing to go!
He need not yearn, he need not sigh—and stay.
"As the crow flies" must be a pleasant way!

KATE S. WILLIAMS.
Santa Ysabel, California.

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